



By Brigadier General Kenneth M. Taylor Jr.



SENIOR LEADERS VISIT Senator Ted Stevens, Lt Gen Ed Baca, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, and Brig Gen Paul Weaver, Deputy Director of the Air National Guard vis-

ited our Wings during late June and early July. To say they were impressed is an understatement. In particular, General Baca noted that, "These Alaska Air Guard units are an excellent example of how the entire Guard is supposed to interact and work with our active component counterparts. It is a real tribute to their skills, talents and attitudes." Both generals also took the time to stop by the Pararescue Center at the Jewel Lake Armory to thank the 210th RQS for all of the good work they'd been doing lately (the unit had helped rescue a dozen UAA students and instructors from the Ptarmigan Peak incident and were involved in several other searches).

WHY STAT TOURS ARE GOOD FOR THE AKANG The Alaska View has featured numerous Alaska Air National Guard individuals who, through their dedication to duty, hard work and motivation, have been chosen for a statutory (or stat for short) tour, usually at the National Guard Bureau, but in other locations as well. We are extremely proud of them since they represent the best of Alaska and the Air National Guard in their career field. Since these individuals help set policy for the nation, streamline paperwork (eliminate red tape) and reflect favorably upon the Alaska Air National Guard, it is a win-win situation for the individual and our organization. In the next few months this space will highlight a few of the outstanding Alaska Air Guard members serving at the national level. Just as it is valuable to have a positive relationship with Senator Stevens, who has always supported our military presence in Alaska, these individuals on a stat tour receive valuable experience, information and a greater understanding of the upper levels of the National Guard Bureau and U.S. Air Force. Many receive awards and promotions while on their tour and this recognition is well-deserved. There are many days of long hours, hard work, and travel, but throughout the duty assignment, there are opportunities for career enhancement. After the stat tour is over, the Guard member brings their knowledge and assistance back to our state. It benefits our unit and certainly gives Alaska an edge on policy and procedures. If you are interested in applying for a statutory tour, please contact your commander, MPF (Personnel) or Education and Training Office for current openings.

PROFILE OF A PROFESSIONAL After spending two years in the Army Reserve, and seven years in the active duty Air Force, MSgt Brian McCarthy joined the Alaska Air National Guard on 2 November 1991. While here in Alaska, Sergeant McCarthy worked at the 168th MSSQ. MSgt Brian D. McCarthy accepted a Stat Tour and was assigned to ANG/MPTTT (OJT Branch) effective March 1995. His position at NGB includes: Serving as the ANG Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) for On-the-Job Training (OJT) by implementing, managing, and interpreting training policy and programs that support ANG mission requirements; Ensuring ANG OJT policies and procedures are in consonance with Air Force training objectives by constant contact with State Adjutants General, MAJCOMS and ANG field units; Managing the ANG Career Development Course (CDC) program; Performing staff assistance visits to subordinate units to evaluate training programs; Providing technical assistance to training managers in support of all ANG training programs; And conducting training workshops, seminars, conferences and meetings as required to support ANG training objectives. In this capacity MSgt McCarthy has developed many new programs. His latest project he calls the "training toolbox". The training toolbox is a program that will allow training managers to acquire programs via the World Wide Web. Brian states "My objective is to gather the "best ANG training programs" and to load them to our web page. Training Managers will be able to access the web and download programs they want to utilize. My goal is to have this program operational for the ANG by Jan 98 (hopefully sooner). " He sends his best to everyone up here in Alaska, and related that it was great to hear from us and know we were interested in what he was doing back there in D.C.

SAFETY SNAP Alaska often leads the nation in the number of boating fatalities. The Coast Guard blames Alaska's high fatality rate on drinking and driving, poor seamanship, failure to exercise caution or USE LIFE JACKETS. "In Alaska, you get about an hour in the water, then you die of hypothermia if you don't drown " says the Coast Guard. If you are on the water anywhere in Alaska, WEAR your lifejacket. Don't sit on it, don't stow it, don't have it just handy...WEAR IT. Comfortable "float-coats" and "kid" sized lifejackets can be purchased at many of the sporting goods stores in Alaska. A personal floatation device would not be a bad Alaskan gift suggestion and could perhaps be a gift of life.

FOCUS IN (This insert to the Alaska View is from General Taylor's staff who enjoyed this quote of his so much they wanted to pass it along. General Taylor was speaking of stepping up to new missions and someone pointed out the risks involved.) "If you are an agile mouse in a room full of mouse traps you'll eat well."